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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Hostility of the Rumanian People Against the Government 2. Churches in Rumania	DATE DISTR.	28 June 1955
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25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. The hostility of the Rumanian people against the Rumanian Government is based on the following:
 - a. the economic conditions of the country for which the Government is held responsible because of its incompetence and for acquiescing too easily to the demands of the Soviets who continue to plunder the country undisturbed;
 - b. the lack of personal freedom and of private initiative; and
 - c. the continuous control of the police and the work of disunity and dissension carried out by Party activists who, in order to gain personal advantages, use any means available to them. Cases of persons being reported to the authorities occur every day.
2. The people have no confidence in the Government at all and it is felt by most people that it remains in power only because of the presence of the Soviets. If the Soviet troops were to leave the country, the Rumanian Workers Party would not last very long because of the hostility of the majority of the people.
3. Since it is impossible for the people to openly display their feeling of opposition against the Government, their discontent takes the form of clandestine opposition, both active and passive, ranging from acts of sabotage to listening to foreign broadcasts, from assaults on individual policemen or soldiers to the distribution of propaganda leaflets dropped from airplanes belonging to the Western countries. Among the incidents that have happened are:
 - a. In June 1954, a freight train was derailed at Pitesti with several fatalities and considerable damage.
 - b. In the fall of 1953, a violent fire broke out in a plant making electric light bulbs in Fieni. Finished products whose value was estimated to range between five and seven million lei were destroyed as well as the warehouse in which they were stored.

25X1

25X1

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

25X1

- 2 -

25X1

- c. In the summer of 1953, a storehouse of the military explosive plant in Misa blew up. The explosion took the lives of many people and many others were injured; the damages were high.
- d. In the early part of 1953 and even later, personnel of the Militia were attacked in the mountainous region between Fagaras and Vrancea.
- e. In the summer of 1953, propaganda leaflets dropped into the country by plane were picked up and widely distributed. The contents of the leaflets were enthusiastically received by the persons who saw them.

Although it is not always possible to state that all these incidents are acts of sabotage, the fact that the people believe that they are is indicative of how they feel about the Government, and of their desire to believe that there are still people with the courage to take action against it.

- 4. The churches in Rumanian are open and anyone may worship in them, however, members of the Workers Party are forbidden to enter any church. The religious celebrations are usually interfered with by any means available, such as organizing popular manifestations, open-air dances and meetings, near the churches. The priests are not annoyed in any manner provided that they do not interfere with the policies of the Government. Their religious activities must take place within the confines of the churches. Any outdoor procession or manifestation is forbidden unless prior authorization has been obtained. These authorizations are very rarely granted.

25X1

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